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but the Nebraska Supreme Court recently ruled in the case of Buckingham v. Creighton University that no statutory authority for the court to hear motions for summary judgment. This change would codify the existing motion practice that the court currently uses. And, finally, the current law allows the assignment of a judge to a case at the expiration of the time fixed for filing the answer. In some situations, a pretrial motion may have been filed, yet there is no judge assigned to the case. To fill this gap, the bill would permit the assignment of a judge to a case at the time of the petition or a motion is filed. That's the explanation of the six different changes that take place in LB 128. There has been...basically, the entire bill was not controversial except for the section, the second section dealing with the IME. It is something that was provided for as a part of LB 757. The court, as you may remember, was the integral force behind the passage of LB 757, and they worked hard to put together needed changes which they felt had not occurred in preceding legislatures, and it resulted in a massive reform of LB 757. So the court has really been the impetus on most of the changes that we have had in recent years. There is a belief, though, among different parties that the IME is something that maybe can be tinkered with. There is that hope that an independent medical examiner could still save the court some time, and always trying to find the...trying to find the best possible solution. Senator Landis and myself have been working to try to find some language there that would still keep the IME involved in the system but maybe make better use of it, because according to our Nebraska Workers' Comp Court, it is just not being used and it is a waste of time, as far as they are concerned. So we are going to try to tinker with that between now and Select File, and I believe Senator Landis is going to offer an amendment that would strike out that section, and I will be signing onto it, too, as well. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR COORDSEN PRESIDING

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Before we proceed, I am pleased to announce that Senator Chris Peterson has as her guest today her daughter, Anastacia Peterson, who is a sophomore at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, seated under the south balcony. Please welcome Ms. Peterson. Good to